



Santa waves to the people in Saba before setting off on his trip from the airport to the sports field.

Santa arrives in Saba

SABA—The sky had just cleared after a heavy rainstorm when Santa arrived at the airport on Sunday. The Leos, dressed in red Santa hats trimmed in white fur, welcomed the assembled crowd.

Santa and his helpers threw handfuls of candy from the back of a red truck driven by Director of Tourism Glenn Holm. Children scurried between puddles to gather up the sweets.

Then Santa, Miss Saba—Zetti Hassell—and a few Leolives led a cavalcade that included almost 30 vehicles. There was much honking and waving as they passed through the four villages to end up at the sports field in The Bottom.

As people filed into the sports field, more sweets were tossed to the kids and Christmas music set the tone for the jolly affair. One by one, age groups 1 to 10 were called up to the stage to greet Santa, who was seated on a peacock throne.

Photographs were taken and each child received a present. Food and drinks were available at the concession stand.

The Saba Lions Club has

sponsored this popular event for the past 20 years, raising the money for the toys by staging public bingo games.

The Lions thanked Edris Enterprises, Guido's, Scout's Place, Big Rock Market,

Fatum and Nagico insurance companies, Walter and Rebecca Kopzla, Wayne and Elsie Johnson, and many others for their generosity in helping to keep this Saban tradition alive.

Bonaire ReefCam, one of world's best

BONAIRE—The Bonaire ReefCam, the world's first permanent underwater coral reef "Web Camera" (WebCam), has been named one of the world's most interesting WebCams for the year 2000 by EarthCam, the world's leading WebCam portal.

The Bonaire ReefCam, which can be viewed over the Internet at <http://www.BonaireWebCams.com>, was installed in the pristine reefs of the Caribbean island of Bonaire in March 2000 and a trial run was officially launched to the world in August.

Since the official launch, the Bonaire WebCams' Website has had more than 210,000

visitors, with 52,000 visitors and 3.75 million hits in November alone. This made the Bonaire WebCams' Website one of the most popular Web sites in the Caribbean, due to the Bonaire ReefCam, which shows live underwater images, updated every two minutes.

Additionally, the Bonaire ReefCam is becoming a growing attraction to scuba divers on Bonaire, as it allows them to share their experiences underwater with friends and family around the world, live as they are happening.

The Bonaire ReefCam is complemented by several above-water cameras as well as real-time weather information from the island of Bonaire.

Artist Griffith displays work at Bearden Gallery

PHILIPSBURG—Local artist Cynric Griffith returned to the exhibition scene at Nanette Bearden Fine Arts Gallery Saturday. Griffith had not shown his work publicly for over seven years.

On this occasion, the gallery hosted an official reception Saturday from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

Griffith's one-man show is a retrospective that also highlights some of his latest

works, including "The Sugar Cane Cutter." Connoisseurs have called it a masterpiece, the gallery stated in a press release.

Griffith's work can be found in museums and private collections in the Caribbean, Europe and the USA. Recently, the Island Government commissioned him to do a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix.

In its release, the gallery stated that critics say Griffith

has a special talent to bring out the features of his subjects with vivid resemblance and his treatment of light and colour is peculiarly Caribbean.

His landscapes and market scenes have long been favourites among art collectors and this show exemplifies some of the very best in his production, according to the Nanette Bearden Fine Arts Gallery release.



The "who's who" of St. Maarten strutted their stuff for a good cause at Great Bay Beach Hotel on Saturday night. Funds raised at the show will benefit Help Our Children Foundation, which organised the event. From left to right, former first lady Celia Richardson, Commissioner Franklin Meyers and radio personality Elton Jones were only three of the many celebrities who took part. Photo by Gromyko Wilson.



Sundial School Principal Angela Drijvers surprised some of her long-serving teachers yesterday at the school. She honoured those teachers with more than 20 years of service by presenting them with gifts of appreciation for years of commitment to Sundial and its students. Those honoured were Winifred Hassell for 30 years of service, Roy Mathew for 30 years, Julie Jones for 22 years, Mina Violenus for 20 years and Anastacia Larmonie for more than 20 years of service.